## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of:
Hiroyasu Abe et al.

Application No.: 10/624,486

Confirmation No.: 7817

Filed: July 23, 2003

Art Unit: 1794

For:  METHOD FOR MANUFACTURING WOOD
      ELEMENTS FOR MUSICAL INSTRUMENTS,
      WOOD ELEMENTS FOR MUSICAL
      INSTRUMENTS OBTAINED THEREBY, AND
      MUSICAL INSTRUMENT THEREWITH

Examiner:  Crouse, Brett Alan

## RESPONSE AFTER FINAL ACTION UNDER 37 C.F.R. 1.116

MS AF
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA  22313-1450

Dear Sir:

## INTRODUCTORY COMMENTS

In response to the Office Action dated February 27, 2008, finally rejecting claims 1-13, please reconsider the above-identified U.S. patent application.

**Listing of the Claims** are on page 3 of this paper.  No claims have been amended hereby and the listing is included solely for the convenience of the Examiner.

**Remarks/Arguments** begin on page 6 of this paper.

## FEE CALCULATION

Any additional fee required has been calculated as follows:

___ If checked, "Small Entity" status is claimed.

| | Claims Remaining After | Highest Number Previously | Number Extra Claims | Rate | Additional Fee |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Total | | - * = | 0 | x | |
| Independent | | - ** = | 0 | x | |
| First presentation of Multiple Dependent Claim(s) (if applicable) | | | | | |
| | | | | TOTAL | |

*not less than 20          ** not less than 3

No additional fee is required.

In the event a fee is required or if any additional fee during the prosecution of this application is not paid, the Patent Office is authorized to charge the underpayment to Deposit Account No. 50-2215.

## CONTINGENT EXTENSION REQUEST

If this communication is filed after the shortened statutory time period had elapsed and no separate Petition is enclosed, the Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks is petitioned, under 37 CFR 1.136(a), to extend the time for filing a response to the outstanding Office Action by the number of months which will avoid abandonment under 37 CFR 1.135. The fee under 37 CFR 1.17 should be charged to our Deposit Account No. 50-2215.